



Please type a plus sign (+) inside this box →

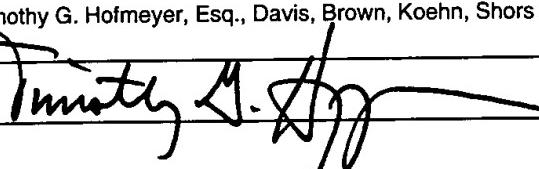
3635

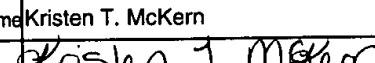
Approved for use through 09/30/2000, OMB 0651-0031
Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number	09/336,207
		Application Date	June 18, 1999
		First Named Inventor	Robert McCracken
		Group Art Unit	3635
		Examiner Name	Yvonne M. Horton
Total Number of Pages in This Submission 12		Attorney Docket Number 8594560/97020	

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below) <input type="checkbox"/> postcard
Remarks Deposit Account Authorization: In the event no specific fee has been authorized above or if a check is detached or misplaced, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the TOTAL DUE to our deposit account No. 12-2250. Any adjustment in the TOTAL DUE should be made to our deposit account No. 12-2250.		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Timothy G. Hofmeyer, Esq., Davis, Brown, Koehn, Shors & Roberts, P.C.
Signature	
Date	

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: 5/8/01	
Typed or printed name	Kristen T. McKern
Signature	
Date	5/8/01

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

5/16/01
RSH
#10

In re Application of) Group Art Unit: 3635
Robert McCracken)
Serial No. 09/336,207) Examiner: Yvonne M. Horton
Filed: June 18, 1999)
For: SPANNING MEMBER WITH)
CONVOLUTED WEB, C-SHAPED)
FLANGES, AND END PLATE)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), a listing of a document that may be material to the examination of this application is provided on the attached Form PTO-1449. Listed Document A1 is a foreign patent that may be relevant to the examination of the present application. A copy of Documents A1 is enclosed herewith. Each item of information contained herein was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, no item of information contained herein was known to any individual designated in § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the instant information disclosure statement. Regrettably, the foreign patent document was not received in time for its contemporaneous submission with the response to office action filed by Applicant on May 4, 2001.

Documents for which the supplied date of publication lists the year of publication without the month were published sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date, so that the particular month of publication is not in issue. Pursuant to §609

of the MPEP, it is understood that the month of publication is not required when the particular month of publication is not in issue.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to the subject invention. In addition, none of the documents that have publication dates prior to the priority date of the above application anticipate the invention in this application.

The cited documents disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the documents and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The discussion of any art and the citation of any document herein is not to be construed as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure are necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and documents recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application.

The recitation herein of the art and documents is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

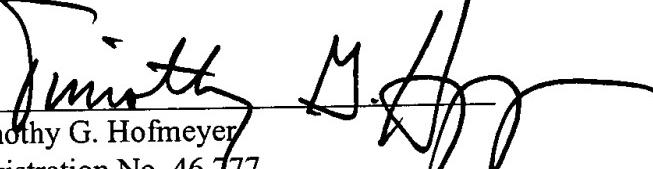
A1

Foreign Patent

<u>No.</u>	<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>	<u>Inventor</u>
1	GB 1,358,261	July 3, 1974	Jack Raymond Tooley

Dated MAY 8, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Timothy G. Hofmeyer
Registration No. 46,777
Davis, Brown, Koehn, Shors & Roberts, P.C.
The Financial Center
666 Walnut Street, Suite 2500
Des Moines, Iowa 50309
Tel: (515) 288-2500
Fax: (515) 243-0654

Enclosures:

Form PTO-1449
Prior Art

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement, together with the stated enclosures, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on 5/8/01.